

Jobs, Economic Development and Sustainable Communities

Strategizing Policy Needs and Program Delivery for Rural California

USDA Rural Development recently announced a partnership with the USDA Farm Services Agency and the Natural Resources Conservation Service to co-host public forums on job creation throughout the state by January 28, 2010. In addition, a wide variety of local organizations are participating, including Economic Development Corporations, U.C. Cooperative Extension, Resource Conservation and Development Councils, California State Universities, Valley Health Network, Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC), Farm Bureaus, Tribal Governments, Self-Help Housing Groups, and many more. Meetings will be held in every county in the SNC service area, and a detailed schedule for meetings in the Sierra and throughout the rest of the state is provided at the end of this document.

The public meetings will be focused on the following:

- What are the opportunities for growth in your area? What businesses and sectors seem poised to rebound? What do you see as the “jobs of the future?”
- What are the obstacles to job creation in your community? What could make local businesses more likely to start hiring?
- Small business is the engine of US economic growth. How can current small businesses be provided with critical support?
- What is the best way to expand public and private financing for green jobs in rural areas? How can the federal government be a better partner with local officials on creating green jobs?
- Are there specific changes to USDA programs and regulations that could positively impact the development of businesses in Rural America or strengthen current businesses? What innovative ideas should USDA consider to increase economic opportunities in rural areas?
- What other issues or ideas should USDA and/or the President consider in regard to jobs, economic development, and sustainable communities?

What are the desired outcomes?

- One document that clearly outlines the needs and issues of California regarding jobs and economic development in our rural communities and resource-based industries: agriculture, forestry, fisheries.
- Some sense of consensus on the contents of this document so that California’s diverse interest groups can begin to work together to pursue the recommendations offered.
- A shared experience by the various partners at the local level that can be built upon for future collaboration.

The information collected will be used to create a final report that will be produced for USDA Secretary Vilsack and President Obama. The final report will also be sent to all participants who signed in, as well as members of California’s state legislature, congressional delegation, and other interested parties.

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Who should attend:

- Local Elected Leaders
- Tribal Governments
- Local Colleges/Schools
- Economic Development Corps
- Business Owners
- Labor Unions
- Nonprofit Groups
- Agricultural Support

County	Date	Time	Location	Facilitator	Organization
Alpine	26-Jan	1-4 or 2-5	Turtle Rock Community Center	Dick McCleery	Central Sierra RC&D
Amador			In conjunction with El Dorado??		
Butte	26-Jan	9-12 noon	Chico State Bell Memorial Union Rm. 210, Chico, CA	Don Krysakowski	California State University, Chico
Calaveras	27-Jan	3 - 4:45pm	Calaveras County Library, 1299 Gold Hunter Road, San Andreas, CA	Jeannie Hayward	The Resource Connection
Colusa	25-Jan	2-4 pm	Conference Room, USDA Service Center, 100 Sunrise Blvd., Colusa	Larry Akin	Central Sacramento Valley RC&D
Del Norte	26-Jan	5:30-7:30pm	Elk Valley Rancheria Community Center, 2298 Norris Avenue, Suite B, Crescent City	Chris Howard	Elk Valley Rancheria
El Dorado	25-Jan	10-12 noon	RCD/ NRCS/ USFS office, 100 Forni Road. Placerville, CA	Dale Pierce	El Dorado Resource Conservation District
Fresno	25-Jan	9-12 noon	Fresno Council of Government Conference Room, 2035 Tulare St. #201, Fresno	Mike Dozier	California State University, Fresno
Glenn	25-Jan	2-4 pm	Rancho de Soto Apartments, Community Bldg, 1003 Newport Ave, Orland	Dave Ferrier	Community Housing Improvement Program
Humboldt	26-Jan	2-4 pm	Humboldt Agricultural Center, 5630 South Broadway, Eureka, CA	Kathy Moxon	Humboldt Area Foundation
Imperial	25-Jan	1:30-3:30pm	San Diego Gas and Electric Renewable Energy Resource Office, 1425 West Main Street, El Centro, CA	Tim Kelley	Imperial Economic Development Corp.

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Inyo	26-Jan	12-2pm	Mount Whitney Hostel, 238 S. Main Street, Lone Pine, CA	Doug Thompson	Mojave Desert Mountain RC&D/Lone Pine Economic Development Corp.
Kern	25-Jan	5:30-7:30pm	County Administrative Building, 3rd Floor multipurpose Room 1115 Truxtun Ave, Bakersfield	Jason Vega	Valley Health Center Network
Kings	25-Jan	9-12 noon	International Agri-Center, 4450 South Laspina Street, Tulare, CA	Paul Saldana	Tulare County Economic Development Corp.
Lake	25-Jan	Noon - 2pm	Mendo-Lake Credit Union Meeting Room, 963 11th St, Lakeport, CA	Phil Giles	North Coast RC&D
Lassen	25-Jan	10-12 noon	Bureau of Land Management Conference Room, 2950 Riverside Dr, Susanville	Linda Hansen Jim Branham	Sierra Nevada Conservancy
Los Angeles	26-Jan	11-1pm	Victorville City Hall, 14343 Civic Drive, Victorville, CA	Rachel Surls	U. C. Cooperative Extension
Madera	26-Jan	9-12 noon	Madera County Social Services Office, 720 E. Yosemite Avenue Madera, CA	Darren Schmall	The Pizza Farm
Marin					
Mariposa	25-Jan	9-12 noon	Mariposa County Board of Supervisors, 5100 Bullion Street, Mariposa, CA	Robyn Smith	Yosemite-Sequoia RC&D
Mendocino	completed		Mendocino Labor Hall	Carre Brown	Mendocino County Supervisor
Merced	26-Jan	2-5 pm	Castle Conference Center, 1900 Airdrome Entry, Atwater, CA 95301	Diedre Kelsey	Merced County Supervisor
				Mark Hendrickson	Merced County Admin.
Modoc	21-Jan	10-12 noon	Alturas City Hall, 200 W North Street, Alturas, CA	Mark Steffek	North Cal-Neva RC&D
Mono	26-Jan	6-8pm	Eastern Sierra College Center Mammoth Campus, Room 215-6, 101 College Parkway, Mammoth Lakes, CA	Vickie Taton	Sierra Business Council and Cerro Coso Community College
Monterey	25-Jan	3-5 pm	PG&E Demonstration Community Room, 356 E Alisal Street, Salinas	Mary Claypool	Monterey County Business Council
Napa					
Nevada	25-Jan	3-5pm	Grass Valley Veterans Hall, 255 S Auburn St, Grass Valley	Jeff Pylman	Nevada County Agricultural Commissioner
Orange					

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Placer	25-Jan	6:30–8:30pm	Placer County Planning Commission Chambers, Community Development Resource Agency Bldg, 3091 County Center Dr, Auburn	Roger Ingram	U. C. Cooperative Extension
Plumas	27-Jan		Sierra-Plumas REC Board Room, 73233 State Road 70, Portola, CA	Bob Marshall	Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative
Riverside - E	25-Jan	11:30 – 1pm	Palo Verde College, Small Business Economic Development Center, 145 North Spring Street, Blythe, California	Jeff Hays	Desert Alliance for Community Empowerment / RANCHO Housing Alliance
Riverside - W	20-Jan	1-3 pm	San Jacinto, CA	Holly Shiralipour and Bruce Scott	South Coast RC&D and Western Riverside Agriculture Coalition
Sacramento	22-Jan	2-5pm	Galt City Council Chambers, 380 Civic Drive, Galt,	Stan Keisling	Rural Community Assistance Corporation
San Benito	26-Jan	4-6pm		Nancy Martin	EDC of San Benito County
San Bernardino	26-Jan	11-1pm	Victorville City Hall, 14343 Civic Drive, Victorville, CA	Rachel Surls	U. C. Cooperative Extension
San Diego	22-Jan	10-12 noon	Pala Tribal Hall, 12196 Pala Mission Road, Pala, CA	Christina Arzate	CA Indian Manpower Consortium, Inc.
San Diego				Ilima Hawkins	Southern Low Desert RC&D
San Joaquin	22-Jan	2-5pm	Galt City Council Chambers, 380 Civic Drive, Galt,	Bruce Blodgett	San Joaquin Farm Bureau
San Luis Obispo	27-Jan	2-4pm	Los Adobes de Maria II 1148 W. Boone Street, Santa Maria, CA, 93458	Sheryl Flores	Peoples' Self-Help Housing
San Mateo	21-Jan	3:30-5 pm	City Council Chambers, Half Moon Bay	John Muller	Half Moon Bay City Council
Santa Barbara	27-Jan	2-4pm	Los Adobes de Maria II 1148 W. Boone Street, Santa Maria, CA, 93458	Sheryl Flores	Peoples' Self-Help Housing
Shasta	26-Jan	1-3 pm	Anderson City Hall, 1887 Howard Street, Anderson, CA 96007	Greg O'Sullivan	Shasta County Economic Development Corp.
Sierra	27-Jan		Sierra-Plumas REC Board Room, 73233 State Road 70, Portola, CA	Bob Marshall	Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative
Siskiyou	22-Jan	9-11 am	Miner's Inn, 122 W. Miner St, Yreka, CA	Gene R. Kelley	Ore-Cal RC&D
Solano	26-Jan	6-8pm	Davis Veteran's Memorial Theater, 203 E 14th St, Davis CA	Morgan Doran	UCCE, California Western SARE Representative
Sonoma	Completed		Research & Town Hall Forums	Ben Stone	Sonoma County Economic Development Corp.

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Stanislaus	25-Jan	9-11am	Stanislaus County Agricultural Center, Harvest Hall Rooms A-C, 3800 Cornucopia Way, Modesto, CA	Michele Lavery	Ag Science Center
Sutter	27-Jan	2-4 pm	Yuba County Government Center Board of Supervisors Chambers 915 8th Street, Marysville, CA	Brynda Stranix	Yuba-Sutter Economic Development Corporation
Tehama	26-Jan	2:30-4:30 pm	Job Training Center, 718 Main Street, Red Bluff	Stewart Knox	Tehama Economic Development Corp. and the Job Training Center
Trinity	27-Jan	1-3pm	Trinity Public Utilities District, 26 Ponderosa Lane, Weaverville, CA	Bryon Hadwick	Northwest California RC&D
Tulare	25-Jan	9-12 noon	International Agri-Center, 4450 South Laspina Street, Tulare, CA	Paul Saldana	Tulare County EDC
Tuolumne	Completed			Larry Cope	Tuolumne Economic Development Corp.
Ventura	27-Jan	2-4pm	Los Adobes de Maria II 1148 W. Boone Street, Santa Maria, CA, 93458	Sheryl Flores	Peoples' Self-Help Housing
Yolo	26-Jan	6-8 pm	Davis Veteran's Memorial Theater, 203 E 14th St, Davis CA	Wes Ervin	Yolo County Economic Development Corp.
Yuba	26-Jan	2-4 pm	Alcouffe Community Center, 9185 Marysville Road, Oregon House, CA	Kay Joy	High Sierra RC&D